

# PREVENTION

IDAHO CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND NEWSLETTER

## 1st Annual ICTF "Board Award" for Child Abuse Prevention Awarded to BabySteps

BabySteps Prenatal & Parenting Education Program through St. Michael's Cathedral in Boise received \$5,000 and the distinction of being the first ever "Board Award" winner! Board Chair Monte MacConnell said that "BabySteps is the epitome of a successful community-based child abuse prevention program, and we are thrilled to support their program with a \$5,000 check."

The "Board Award" is an annual award created by the members of the Idaho Children's Trust Fund Board to recognize and reward a particular child abuse prevention effort in Idaho that is creative, innovative and impacts the community in a positive way by *preventing* the abuse and neglect of children. According to the "Board Award" guidelines, the efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect undertaken by the applicant should be innovative, creative, collaborative, able to be replicated, have a positive impact on the community, receive community support, and occur in Idaho.

In choosing to honor child abuse prevention strategies, Executive Director Nancy Hausner stated, "We are staying true to our mission of preventing child abuse before it ever occurs, which results in healthy kids, healthy families and healthy communities. The ICTF is very excited to begin this new way of recognizing and honoring those who are dedicated to the prevention of child abuse."

According to the application submitted by BabySteps founder Diane Demarest, "BabySteps Prenatal & Parenting Education Program began at St. Michael's Cathedral in February 2003. Now beginning its fourth year of operation, BabySteps has welcomed over 400 limited-income women, along with their families into a program of education and support to promote healthier pregnancies, babies and families by increasing knowledge, empathy and support. We believe that gains in

each of these areas helps participants develop positive parenting practices to promote optimal child development and prevent child abuse and neglect.

Even though BabySteps engages parents for just the first year or so of a child's life, it may have a lasting impact. Parents who develop skills to support their child's early development are more likely to stay engaged and support their child's continued learning. The outcome for each child lies in greater possibilities and realized potential—when abuse is prevented each child has the possibility to develop more fully. When children are cared for by adults who nurture them and do not abuse or neglect them, they are more likely to become adults who nurture children."

Any agency, organization or individual engaged in efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect in Idaho is eligible to apply. This includes, but is not limited to: non-profits, government agencies, schools, hospitals, foster parents, faith communities, child care centers, coalitions, private counseling centers, homeless shelters, and service clubs. Applications for the ICTF "Board Award" for 2007 will be on our website on January 2, 2007.



From left to right: Mickey Harmer - ICTF Board Member; Holly Mason - BabySteps Manager; Lynn Miner - ICTF Board Member; Diane Demarest - BabySteps Founder; Dean Rich Demarest - St. Michael's Cathedral; James Herrmann - ICTF Board Member; Chrystie Brassey - BabySteps Volunteer; Marilyn Giddings - ICTF Board Member; Joan Nelson - BabySteps Volunteer; Annette Compton - BabySteps Volunteer; R. Monte MacConnell - ICTF Board Chair; Mary Marshall - ICTF Board Member.

## Idaho Children's Trust Fund Board Members

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hausner@idhw.state.id.us

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## Idaho Children's Trust Fund Announces 2006 – 2007 Mini Grant Recipients

Mini Grants were awarded to 18 local programs throughout Idaho that work with families helping them to raise children in an abuse-free environment. Projects range from parenting classes for female inmates to the use of the internet to provide parenting education for Idahoans in rural areas. In hospitals, juvenile detention centers, faith communities and even domestic violence programs, families are being supported in their local communities to be the best they can be for their children.

Funded projects began July 1 and will run for 12 months. Applications for the next round of Mini Grants will be available on the ICTF website ([www.idahochildrenstrustfund.idaho.gov](http://www.idahochildrenstrustfund.idaho.gov)) January 2, 2007.

5 County Juvenile Detention & Rehabilitation  
Center, St. Anthony  
*Real Life Baby Parenting Course*

BabySteps at St. Michael's Episcopal  
Cathedral, Boise  
*Community Collaboration Building &  
Volunteer Training*

Family Advocate Program, Inc., Boise  
*Parenting with Love & Logic*

Family Safety Network, Driggs  
*Decreasing Child Sexual Abuse Through  
Prevention Education*

Family Services Alliance of Southeast Idaho,  
Pocatello  
*Positive Parenting Classes at Pocatello  
Women's Correctional Center*

Garden Valley School District #71, Garden  
Valley  
*Preschool Parent Education: Nurturing  
Parenting Program*

Gritman Medical Center, Moscow  
*WINGS—Working in Networks to Gain  
Strength*

H&W Infant Toddler Program, Nampa  
*Positive Parenting Solutions*

ICARE—Children & Family Advocacy Center,  
Coeur d'Alene  
*Early Childhood Parenting Made Fun &  
Nurturing Father's Program*

Idaho's Heart Services & Education, Inc.,  
Boise  
*Circle of Parents*

Independent School District #1, Lewiston  
*Becoming a Love & Logic Parent*  
Kretzmann Family Consulting, Grangeville  
*Online Parenting Classes*

Lemhi's Promise and The Mahoney Family  
Center, Salmon  
*Parent Support Group for At-Risk  
Families*

Northern Rocky Mountain Easter Seals  
Society, Inc., Nampa  
*Love & Logic and Nurturing Fathers  
Parenting Programs*

Palouse Industries—Young Children &  
Families Program, Moscow  
*Circle of Parents Support Group*

St. Luke's Center for Community Health,  
Hailey  
*Familias Saludables/Healthy Families*

Valley Crisis Center and Nampa Family  
Justice Center, Nampa  
*Safe Parents, Safe Children*

# Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education



The ICTF recently received a grant from the National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds to implement an exciting new project in Idaho to prevent child abuse. With our partner, the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children, we will initiate a "reframing" of

the "intentionality" of protecting children by strengthening families to their child care programs.

Since 2002, the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP), with funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, has been studying the role of early care and education programs in child abuse and neglect prevention. The resulting "Strengthening Families" concept offers a wide-spread understanding of what early care and education programs and providers can do—and in some cases already do—to promote healthy child development and reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect. Research shows that early childhood programs in particular can serve as an effective "early warning system" to immediately and effectively address risky situations and that strong early childhood programs can be enhanced to incorporate child abuse prevention strategies along with their traditional role of promoting healthy child development.

Through an extensive literature review, surveys, focus groups, and site visits to twenty-one exemplary early care and education programs across the country, a framework of protective factors was developed and corroborated by CSSP. These protective factors are:

- Parental resilience,
- An array of social connections (so that parents are not isolated),
- Adequate knowledge of parenting and child development,
- Concrete support in times of need (so that stress does not become overwhelming); including access to necessary services such as mental health or substance abuse treatment, and
- Healthy social and emotional development among children.

Early care and education programs are uniquely positioned to integrate the protective factors framework into their every-day interactions with children and parents.

This partnership brings the best of both worlds together to reach the goals for the project; Idaho Children's Trust Fund with their focus on the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children's focus on increasing professional development for the early care and education community. At the end of the two year project the Strengthening Families approach will be operationalized and readily available to early care and learning settings throughout the state. Together this focus will improve the lives of all children in Idaho.

For more information please contact the ICTF office at 208-386-9317 or Brenda Breidinger at the Idaho AEYC, 208-345-1090, ext. 10.

## SAVE THE DATE!

The ICTF's annual *Strengthening Families to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect Conference* is scheduled for March 19 & 20 at the Doubletree Riverside Hotel in Boise. Our nationally recognized keynote speaker will be Donna Beegle, PhD of Communication Across Barriers.

Dr. Beegle's personal history and her studies of communication, poverty, gender, and education make her uniquely qualified to work with organizations and individuals to increase success for people from poverty backgrounds. Registration for both days is only \$75 and includes lunches and CEU's.

Information and details will be on our website in January 2007.



# Grant Workshops Coming to your Area in November

Once again, the ICTF staff will travel the state to present workshops to those interested in applying for a Mini Grant or Multi-Year Grant to prevent child abuse. Workshops are planned for early to mid-November in Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Nampa/Caldwell, Boise, Twin Falls, Pocatello and Idaho Falls. Topics will include eligibility for applying for a grant, criteria for Mini or Multi-Year grant applications, and Logic Model Development (a requirement in the application). Grant applications for the 2007 – 2008 fiscal year will be available in January 2007. Completed applications are due to the ICTF office on March 15.

Staff will also discuss the funding available to regions from the ICTF for Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Awareness Campaigns in April, and the ICTF "Board Award" for Child Abuse Prevention that offers \$5,000 to recognize and reward a particular child abuse prevention effort in Idaho that is creative, innovative and impacts the community in a positive way. Applications for the Regional CAP Awareness funds are due January 31, 2007, and "Board Award" applications will be available in January, and due on March 15, 2007.

Details about the workshops will be available on our website in early October, or by calling 208-386-9317. There is no fee to attend the workshop, but registration is required.

Return Service Requested

[www.idahochildrenstrustfund.idaho.gov](http://www.idahochildrenstrustfund.idaho.gov)

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